

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, LAUDED FOR TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN VOTE-BY-MAIL

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, today, April 3, 2000, the 2000 Information Technology Innovation Collection will be formally presented to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. I am proud to let my colleagues know that the Maricopa County (Arizona) Election Department's Vote-By-Mail technology program will become part of the Permanent Research Collection on Information Technology at the Smithsonian in recognition of how Maricopa County is utilizing new information age tools to extend the benefits of technology to voters.

Maricopa County is the fifth largest county in the United States, and is more than 1.4 million voters. In an effort to provide alternative methods of voting to increase voter participation, reduce voter apathy and thwart the stereotype that government is antiquated and inflexible, the Elections Department has devised and implemented a Vote-By-Mail program in which voters are encouraged to request mail-in ballots by phone, mail, Internet, or walk-in. Overall voter participation has increased since 1992 when Vote-By-Mail was first available for all voters, and mail-in ballots have grown to account for a third of the total ballots cast in the last election.

The benefits of the Vote-By-Mail process include ease and convenience, more time to study issues or candidates appearing on the ballot, and relief from time constraint problems on election day such as conflicting job hours or transportation issues. The most evident benefit in past election statistics is the overwhelming increase in voter turnout.

Through the implementation of several new hardware and software technologies, the Maricopa County Elections Department has created a system which allows for the timely, reliable and secure storage and access to voter affidavits, efficient yet stringent and accurate tracking, processing and return of voters' ballots, systematic record-keeping, and a verification system for ballot security which checks the voter's signature as well as insuring that a voter meets the criteria that they maintain their registration throughout the 33-day early voting period which insures confidence in a fraudulent-free voting method.

Nominated by Michael Dell, Chairman and Chief Executive Office of Dell Computer Corporation, in the Government & Non-Profit Organizations category, Maricopa County Election Department's work is part of a collection that includes over 440 of the year's most innovative applications of technology from 38 states and 21 countries.

Karen Osborne, Maricopa County Elections Director; Reynaldo Valenzuela and John Stewart of the staff from the Maricopa County Elec-

tions Department will be attending today's Presentation Ceremony, returning to Phoenix to present the Medal to the Maricopa County Recorder, Helen Purcell, in a special ceremony at the Recorder's Office on Thursday, April 6, 2000.

Mr. Speaker, I bring this special recognition to the attention of my colleagues as a tried and true technological means to increase voter participation, and congratulate Maricopa County Recorder Helen Purcell, Elections Director Karen Osborne and their staff for their outstanding work and well-deserved recognition for conducting Vote-By-Mail efficiently, accurately and safely.

OPPOSITION TO MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, today I state my opposition to recent efforts to raise the government-mandated minimum wage. I am convinced that a higher mandated minimum wage would dramatically reduce job opportunities for those who truly need them and stifle the growth of our economy.

Congress raised the minimum wage twice in recent years. It is my belief that employers should have the right to choose when to give employees raises. Several economists have stated that mandating a higher minimum wage will encourage employers to replace people with machines, or move their businesses to countries that do not have a mandated minimum wage. Either way, this will result in fewer jobs for Americans.

If we truly support increased opportunities for teens to get work experience, and for poor men and women to escape unemployment, we must not legislate an even higher minimum wage that prices them out of the job market. Instead, Congress needs to focus our efforts on achieving regulatory reform tax relief and legal reform which will increase the capital available to the business sector for wage increases. Congress must also focus on reducing individual income taxes so that citizens can keep more of their hard-earned money.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HENRY BRADFORD, JR. OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr., to Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the spiritual community at large in northern Alabama. His

list of credentials fills many a page. Dr. Bradford has been a moral mentor for Church Street Presbyterian for 36 years.

For almost four decades Dr. Bradford has imparted his wisdom from the pulpit. The community refers to Dr. Bradford as "everybody's pastor" which reflects his selfless service to our entire city.

I believe this is a fitting tribute for one who has given so much of himself for the betterment of others. Aside from his pastoral duties, Dr. Bradford has served as chairman of the board of directors of the Harris Home for six years in addition to numerous other board positions. Bradford's vocal talents have been enjoyed by our community as he has been a narrator for Huntsville museums and the orchestra. He has graciously shared his musical talents also as Chairman of the Department of Music Education at Alabama A&M University and as a music professor at Oakwood College.

I want to offer my best wishes to Dr. Bradford, his wife Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford, their children Dr. Henry Lane Bradford and Andrea Bradford and their grandson, Henry Lane. He has inspired so many to seek truth and to use their talents to serve the community. I congratulate Dr. Bradford on his retirement and wish him a well-deserved rest.

LEHIGH VALLEY HEROES—LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS

HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a group of my constituents who do volunteer work helping others in my district. Over 100 volunteers for the Lehigh Valley Hospice will soon receive awards for their service. These volunteers, who come from all areas of eastern Pennsylvania, help to improve the lives of thousands of terminally ill patients in the community.

From assisting with chores to providing respite for patients' families, the acts of these volunteers show the depth of their generosity and compassion. Hospice volunteers provide much needed emotional support during a time of tremendous distress. The volunteers provided care for patients as well as caregivers, and represent a light of hope to the entire community.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Lehigh Valley Hospice, and I applaud the organization's wonderful volunteers for providing a service that aids so many members of the community. Mr. Speaker, all the hospice volunteers are Lehigh Valley Heroes.

HONOREES—LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS

Marilyn Ackerman, Robert Allwein, Jennifer Baldwin, Edna Balmat, Debbie Barr, Susan Baxter, Jean Behler, Shirley Beiseigel, Irene Bell, Roy Bertelsen, Rosemary Bobersky, Al Braido, Florence Brown,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Lisa Brown, Lois Brown, Diane Buchner, Nadenka Butko.

Penn Clissold, Mary Therese Collins, Karen Conners, Jean Cooper, Dorine Cope, Betsy Cunningham, Alice D'Amore, Rosie Deitrick, Marilyn Demaree, Lou Ditro, Jean Dolan, Chester Dombrowski, Helene Dombrowski, Betty Dorwart, Elizabeth Dorwart, Margaret Duell, Doug Dykhous.

Mary Earley, Adrienne Ehle, Jean Everett, Gerry Filemyr, Gertrude Flicker, Kathleen Foglia, Dorothy Folk, Helen Fox, Susan Fritz.

Lar Garman, Gail Geist, Steve Gendall, Marion Gewartowski, Joyce Gobrecht, Connie Graaf, Lorraine Gyauch, Mary Haas, Jeanne Hagemes, Susan Hamill, David Hankard, Lori Henninger, Jack Helt, Dorothy Hoffman, Jane Holland, Barbara Hydro.

Karen Jacob, Marymae Jansson, Ann Karas, Pat Keinert, Barbara Kelly, Mary Lou Kenney, Becky Korman, Gina Kramer, Sarah Kutz, Shirley Lafaver, Roberta Lambert, Helen Lamparella, Joan Laudenslager, Margaret Liebl, Martha Lopez, Anne Lynch, Wendy Lynn.

Ed Magocs, Jean Magocs, Kathryn Major, Ken Mangano, Helen Maron, Yvette Martinez, Linette Martino, Joan May, Donnal Mayotte, Suzanne McCready, Anne McCullough, Tracey McGee, Susan McGrath, Jean McNamara, Lettie Mearhoff, Kristy Parks Mesh, Sue Micek, Rodney Miller, Carolyn Momm, Joan Moran, Elsie Mory, Valerie Moyer.

Ruth Nigro, Pat Pluchinsky, Angie Pontician, Sylvia Prorok, Frederika Rhodes, Nancy Rich, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Kim Roth, Lillian Rozenburgh.

Laurette Sabolick, Jean Sauder, Carol Saxman, Marion Schaffer, Ann Schuck, Mary Sechler, Jan Seem, Eileen Serow, Elaine Sheninger, Brenda Smith, Sherri Smith, Brenda Stahley, Kathy Sterner, Justine Stoudt, Arlan Strubeck.

Fran Tapper, Mary Thompson, Karen Toole, Dorothy Tramontano, Beverly Van Kuren, Jeaninne Wagner, Frank Walsh, Eleanor Wetherhold, Janet Whitehill, Ann Wilhelm, Anne Yori, Rita Zanders, Susan Zern, Bill Zoshak.

In memoriam—Michael McNamara and Ethel Strubeck.

SALUTE TO THE 1999 LOS ANGELES POLICE RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR, SPECIALIST RESERVE OFFICER ERICA DESMITH

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today I salute my constituent, a resident of North Hills, who truly embodies the spirit of national service.

Erica DeSmith, who is assigned to the LAPD Devonshire Area, was selected as the Los Angeles Police Department's Reserve Officer of the Year for 1999 at the annual Reserve Award's Banquet on March 25th. As a Specialist Reserve Police Officer, Erica DeSmith volunteers her time to the Devonshire Area community-policing program four days a week, seven hours a day, and has amassed over 13,000 hours over the past 6 years.

Officer DeSmith is the mainstay of the community-policing program who takes calls from community members who have problems ranging from graffiti to noisy neighbors to speeding on their streets. She handles the in-

quiries that do not need direct police response, thus saving countless valuable hours for police officers to focus on other duties and responsibilities.

Officer DeSmith has established a solid reputation with the sworn officers, civilian employees of Devonshire Area, and the community; and is a person who can be relied on to get the job done. Her commitment to the self-excellence, her leadership qualities, and her ability to motivate her fellow officers and all add up to making her an outstanding public servant. Her tireless efforts and personal interest have contributed significantly toward ensuring the success of community based policing in the Devonshire Area.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the unbridled commitment and dedication of Los Angeles Police Specialist Reserve Officer Erica DeSmith. I also recognize thousands of her fellow officers, both sworn and reserve, who give so much of themselves to ensure the safety of our citizens and community, many times at the expense of their own families. Thank you for a job well done.

2000 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3908) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Chairman, last night in my district in McClain County, Oklahoma, a home was completely destroyed in a methamphetamine lab explosion. The explosion was so intense the toxic waste disposal team could not clean the area for several hours. Every day in Oklahoma, families are exposed to toxic fumes that are disbursed in meth lab explosions. Earlier this month, in Grove, Oklahoma, 26 people were rushed to the emergency room as a result of another meth lab explosion. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation estimates that there are 900 meth labs in Oklahoma, and thousands upon thousands of these illegal meth labs across the country.

The DEA, which funds the clean up of these illegal meth labs, has already run out of funds for this year.

Today, this body has the opportunity to help the people of Oklahoma and thousands of other communities across this country. Representative HUTCHINSON's amendment will use existing Justice Department funds to supply the Drug Enforcement Administration with 15 million dollars to clean up meth labs across the nation.

I urge my colleagues to stand with Representative HUTCHINSON and myself to provide our communities with protection from these dangerous illegal meth labs. Vote "yes" on the Hutchinson amendment.

CONGRATULATING CHARLES AND BERNICE COVELLI UPON THEIR FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Charles and Bernice Covelli. They were married fifty years ago last Friday, on March 31, 1950 at the First Christian Church in West Frankfort, Illinois. Charles and Bernice Covelli were both born in West Frankfort, Illinois, which is in my district, and still reside there today. Charles was born to Steve and Mary Covelli and Bernice was born Bernice Stephens to Jack and Lydia Stephens. Together they have one daughter named Debbie Ricci, who is married to Tim Ricci. Debbie and Tim gave Charlie and Bernice two wonderful granddaughters named Chelcee and Lacey.

Charles was the self-employed owner and operator of Covelli's Steve's Place and Italian Restaurant in Royalton, Illinois for fifty years. Charlie also served in the United States Army and now is retired. Bernice was a employee of the Illinois State Board of Education for thirty years and is also now retired. In their retirements, Charlie and Bernice both enjoy spending time with their grandchildren. Charlie, a sports fan, also like attending sporting events and Bernice enjoys reading and discussing politics.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all my colleagues in the House of Representatives in wishing a happy anniversary to Charles and Bernice Covelli. I know that this is a very special time for the Covellis, their family and friends, and I am honored to have this opportunity to commemorate their fiftieth wedding anniversary in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, on March 9, I voted incorrectly on rollcall vote No. 45, the final passage vote for H.R. 3846. My intention was to vote "nay."

TRIBUTE TO MRS. DOROTHY MIREE OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. BUD CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of Mrs. Dorothy (Dot) Miree to the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce. Every year about this time. Mrs. Miree has made an appearance here in Washington with the annual Chamber trip. This year will be her last trip as she is retiring shortly. Over her twelve year career with the Chamber, she has led hundreds of Chamber members to Washington,

D.C. and Montgomery for annual trips. She has also planned and organized the Chamber's Washington and Alabama updates, Armed Forces Celebrations, annual outings and more than 100 other events. All of these have been very professionally administered with a careful eye for detail and a very personalized touch.

We have a very open and warm working relationship with Mrs. Miree. Working together to bridge the connection between the Tennessee Valley and the federal government, we have taken giant steps towards generating more economic development in North Alabama. As a resident of Huntsville since 1952 and a long time member of First Presbyterian Church, Mrs. Miree cares about her community and it shows.

I want to offer my best wishes and congratulations to Mrs. Miree and her family: her husband Reggie, her three children, Lucia, Marian and Trey and her three grandchildren, Jessica, Brandon and Alexandra.

For her dedication, hard work and loyalty, I feel that this is an appropriate honor. Over her twelve year career, she has become a role model for her work ethic and competence. On behalf of the U.S. Congress, I pay homage to Mrs. Miree and thank her for a job well done. I wish her a well-deserved rest and I wish the Chamber the best of luck in coping without her.

2000 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3908) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, in 1973, the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control issued its "America Burning" report. For the fire service this was a turning point in its 350 year history and led to the creation of the United States Fire Administration.

Today is another such turning point because this afternoon we will see a renewed Federal commitment to the fire service. I will get into the details in a moment but first I would like to thank a few of my colleagues for their leadership.

First, is my good friend from Pennsylvania CURT WELDON. As all of you know, Representative WELDON is the founder of the Fire Caucus and has done more to advance the cause of first responders than any other Member in Congress.

Secondly, I would like to thank my friend from New Jersey Representative BILL PASCRELL. Congressman PASCRELL is the sponsor of the FIRE Act, H.R. 1168. The FIRE Act has energized the fire service and the grant provisions to our first responders included in the amendment today are largely derived from his legislation.

Finally, are my Fire Caucus Co-chairs. Representative ROB ANDREWS and Representative SHERRY BOEHLERT, and Representatives NICK

SMITH who serves as Chairman of the Basic Research Subcommittee of the Science Committee. All of them have worked very hard to get us here today.

Mr. Chairman, as I said before this is a watershed moment for the fire service. The proposed amendment does four very important things for the fire service. First, it makes available \$10 million for the Volunteer Fire Assistance program. This program helps fire departments in rural and suburban areas prepare for and fight wildfires.

The second component is \$10 million for a competitive grant program administered by FEMA for burn prevention, research, and treatment. This money will be used by groups like Safe Kid, AARP, and NFPA to prevent fires before they start.

Groups like the International Association of Fire Fighters will be able to apply for the money to augment their very successful burn camp. Unlike other accident victims, burn survivors are often permanently disfigured and require extensive physical therapy, job re-training and counseling.

The fourth item is the \$80 million that will be made available to fire fighter health and safety. Sadly, every year roughly 100 fire fighters are killed in the line of duty. This money will be used to purchase turnout gear, communications equipment, promote fire fighter fitness, increase training, and enforce the fire codes.

Mr. Chairman, I want to urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment.

IN HONOR OF ABBY SNAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 6, 2000, Abby Snay will be honored at a luncheon in San Francisco for her 25 years of service to the Jewish Vocational and Career Counseling Service (JVS).

Abby Snay first joined JVS in 1975 as a part-time counselor for high school students. In 1981, she became Assistant Director of JVS and in 1984 assumed her current position as the Executive Director. It is truly remarkable that for more than two decades she has remained with JVS benefitting that organization and the larger San Francisco community with her insight, wisdom, and hard work.

For twenty-five years, Abby has worked closely with leaders of business and government to provide employment-related services for people with diverse backgrounds and from diverse communities in San Francisco. She is well known for her ability to develop innovative partnerships with local educational institutions, private companies and other community-based organizations to train adults and youth and place them into jobs. Abby has possessed the ability to anticipate trends before they happen and to reinvent JVS as the community's needs change. Her many accomplishments include: rehabilitation programs for people with disabilities, including two current programs for individuals living with HIV/AIDS; occupational training programs in computer assisted drafting and design, nursing and related medical skills, computer literacy, and vocational English as a second language (VESL); school

to work programs for students with disabilities; and job search and placement programs for welfare recipients and homeless men and women.

Under Abby's leadership, JVS has grown from a small organization with four employees and a \$300,000 budget to an influential community-based organization with more than 70 full time employees and a budget of over \$4 million. Abby was named the Jewish Community Federation's Professional of the Year in 1993, and since she became Executive Director in 1984, JVS has received numerous awards for its innovative programs.

Mr. Speaker, I join with Abby's many friends in San Francisco in celebrating her career. She is a remarkable person and San Francisco has benefitted greatly from her contributions.

IN HONOR OF CELINE MARCUS ON THE OCCASION OF HER NINETEENTH BIRTHDAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Celine Marcus. Mrs. Marcus is well known and broadly respected as a leading advocate for tenants' rights, seniors, and the poor. She is a role model and an inspiration to countless residents in New York City. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mrs. Marcus's 90th birthday by expressing our Nation's deep appreciation and gratitude for her life and work.

A civic activist for more than 30 years, Mrs. Marcus has devoted herself to helping the poor, the elderly, and the homeless in her community on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. As an advocate for tenant rights and rent protections, Mrs. Marcus was a founder of the Neighborhood for Shelter, the Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, and Interfaith Neighbors.

Serving first as Associate and then as Executive Director of the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, Mrs. Marcus created such innovative programs as the Lenox Hill Senior Center and Project SCOPE, which provides home care services for housebound older adults in the community. As Executive Director, Mrs. Marcus has thoroughly advanced the mission of The Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, to help those in need on Manhattan's East Side while improving the quality of life for all the individuals and families in its community.

In recognition of her leadership and great commitment to those in need, the City Council of New York has declared March 30, 2000, "Celine Marcus Day." For more than 30 years, Mrs. Marcus has devoted herself to the underserved residents of her community. She created numerous tenant and block associations and organized neighbors to fight for fair housing protections. In her every endeavor Mrs. Marcus has brought health and happiness to others and touched the lives of countless New Yorkers.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the life and work of Celine Marcus, and I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing her significant contributions to the Lenox Hill community, to the city of New York, and to our great Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 95, on March 30, I was detained and unable to make this vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING JACK BRADY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the House has lost a good friend. Jack Brady, who passed away last week, worked for the House Foreign Affairs Committee for 26 years, including 17 as chief of staff.

Jack's personality suffused every activity of the Foreign Affairs Committee, from markups and hearings to study missions abroad. A Committee Member could not walk into the hearing room without running into Jack, usually with a cigar in hand, running down the day's agenda. He earned great respect from Members and staff for his vision and indefatigable tenacity.

Mr. Speaker, it is no exaggeration to say that Jack Brady was essential to the operations of our Foreign Affairs Committee—now known as the International Relations Committee—from the drafting of legislation to the filling of the water pitchers. From 1976 to 1993, he was the personification of our Committee.

Jack was extraordinarily highly qualified for his job. He had a doctorate in international relations from the London School of Economics and a master's degree from Notre Dame. He was a combat veteran of World War II, having served as an enlisted soldier in Europe. He retired after 21 years of active duty in the U.S. Army as a Lt. Colonel. His awards and decorations included the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Mr. Speaker, Jack Brady was a man who took great pride in serving his country, which he did with distinction in a number of arenas. His service to this body was extraordinary, and I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring him and expressing our condolences to his family.

DEDICATION OF THE LATE JEREMIAH F. REGAN LIBRARY,
OCEANPORT, NJ

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow evening, Tuesday, April 4, 2000, a most fitting tribute will be made in honor of a man whose passing, a little more than one year ago, is still acutely felt in our community. The Jeremiah F. Regan Library/Media Center will be dedicated in honor of the late Jeremiah F. Regan at the Maple Place School Library in Oceanport, NJ.

Given his decades-long devotion to educational excellence, and providing better opportunities for our young people to get access to an education, naming this facility in Mr. Regan's honor is indeed very appropriate, a well-deserved recognition.

Jerry Regan, a resident of Oceanport who passed away on March 9, 1999, was one of those rare people who could always be relied upon to be involved in a wide array of professional, community, political and religious activities. And yet, more importantly, Jerry always maintained as his top priority his devotion to his family and friends.

His involvement in education issues was both wide and deep. He served as New Jersey delegate to the National School Boards Association and represented school boards in New Jersey's Sixth Congressional District on the Federal Relations Network, a public school advocacy effort. He was a member of the Oceanport Board of Education, an adjunct professor at Monmouth College, and an active leader in the Monmouth County and New Jersey school boards associations. He was President of the Executive Board of the New Jersey School Boards Association from 1988 to 1990, and held other senior posts with the Association.

Jerry was also deeply involved in the political, religious and civic life of our community. He served as campaign director and controller for my predecessor, the late Representative James J. Howard, a Member of Congress for nearly a quarter of a century. He also served on the Diocesan Educational Advisory Council of the Diocese of Trenton. He was a communicant of St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church in Long Branch, NJ, and was active in the St. Vincent DePaul Society. He was a Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 58 in Oceanport for 12 years. Jerry was also a member of the Oceanport Senior Citizens, and he served on the Public Employees Relations Commission.

Jerry Regan was a proud patriot who served our country in time of war, and contributed to our national defense throughout his life. An Army veteran of World War II, Jerry had a long and highly decorated career at Fort Monmouth. He was promoted to the highest civilian level in the Department of Defense. He also served with me and several of my Congressional colleagues, past and present, on the Save Our Fort Committee. He was a member of the Oceanport Division of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

A great American, Jerry Regan was also a proud son of Ireland. Born in Skibbereen in County Cork, Ireland, Jerry came to the U.S. in 1932. He became an American citizen while serving in Germany with the Army. Throughout his life, Jerry maintained a strong devotion to both his native and his adopted homelands.

On this occasion, I also would like to pay tribute to Jerry's wife Marilyn (Pinky) Regan, who has for many years done an absolutely superb job in my campaign office, and to their two sons and three daughters, all the grandchildren, and to Jerry's other relatives on both sides of the Atlantic. They have much to be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, we are often called upon to pay tribute to outstanding citizens who are honored for their many achievements, and it is one of the most rewarding parts of our jobs as elected officials. It is even more rewarding when the person

being honored was a respected colleague and a valued friend, like Jerry Regan.

The dedication of the Jeremiah F. Regan Library/Media Center will stand for years to come as a tribute to the public service of an outstanding citizen and community leader. For those of us who were privileged to know him, the memories of Jerry Regan's warmth, humor and genuine decency will be equally enduring.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HELEN CHENOWETH-HAGE

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE. Mr. Speaker, on March 30, 2000, I missed several rollcall votes on the account that I had unavoidable obligations elsewhere. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 89 (Mr. KASICH's amendment to H.R. 3908), "nay" on rollcall vote 90 (Mr. WELDON's amendment to H.R. 3908), "yea" on rollcall vote 91 (Mr. STEARNS' amendment to H.R. 3908), "yea" on rollcall vote 92 (Mr. PAUL's amendment to H.R. 3908), "yea" on rollcall vote 93 (Mr. TANCREDO's amendment to H.R. 3908), "nay" on rollcall vote 94 (on motion to recommit with instructions), and "nay" on rollcall vote 95 (on passage of H.R. 3908).

ORGAN PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATION CERTIFICATION ACT

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleagues, Representatives JOHNSON of Connecticut, PORTMAN, MATSUI, and PALLONE to introduce the Organ Procurement Organization Certification Act. This important legislation will improve the process that the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) uses to certify organ procurement organizations (OPOs).

Each day about 57 people receive an organ transplant, but another 13 people on the waiting list die because not enough organs are available. According to the United Network for Organ Sharing, there are now 68,220 patients in the United States on the waiting list for a transplant. April 16 through 22 is National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week. Communities nationwide will be celebrating the critical importance of organ and tissue donation. First designated by Congress in 1983, this week is used to raise awareness of the critical need for organ and tissue donation and to encourage all Americans to share their decision to donate with their families so their wishes can be honored. This is especially important as the gap between the supply of organs and the growing number of transplant candidates continues to widen.

Next week, it is expected that the House will consider legislation dealing with organ allocation—this issue has been very controversial and certainly deserves our attention. But one of the most critical aspects of the organ transplant system gets very little attention. Organ Procurement Organizations—or OPOs—play a

critical role in procuring and placing organs and are therefore key to our efforts to increase the number and quality organs available for transplant. The OPOs' job is to provide all of the services, within a geographic region, for coordinating the identification of potential donors, requests for donation, and recovery and transplant of organs. The professionals in the OPOs evaluate potential donors, discuss donation with family members, and arrange for the surgical removal of donated organs. They are the people that are responsible for preserving the organs and making arrangements for distribution within the national organ sharing policies. Finally, the OPOs provide information and education to medical professionals and the general public to encourage organ and tissue donation to increase the availability for organs for transplantation.

I don't think that most people are aware of how significant these organizations are, or the impact they have on these recipients' lives. There are currently 60 organ procurement organizations in the United States. Unfortunately, OPOs are suffering from what many other health care providers deal with on a regular basis—excessive regulations from HCFA.

Under current regulations, OPOs are subject to a recertification process every two years. Within that process, HCFA's current measures for certification are based on invalid assumptions. First, they assume that potential donors are equivalent per capita in each OPO service area. Harvard University and industry studies have demonstrated otherwise. Demographic and epidemiologic data have shown wide variations across the country in suicides, homicides, and gunshot wounds; in motor vehicle fatalities; and in HIV incidence and frequency. HCFA also assumes that potential donors die where they live. Recent data examining donors recovered with a home address outside of the OPO service area, however, show wide variations. None of these variations are adjusted by HCFA. HCFA also assumes that populations are accurately determined and assigned. We know, however, that there exist differential growth rates across the country with lags in reporting, and we know that census undercounts vary across the nation. HCFA frequently splits populations arbitrarily across counties as part of OPO service area assignments. None of these variations are adjusted for in the current measures. These are just a few of the problems. I'm not a statistician, but even I can see the inefficiencies in these measures.

For example, while Michigan ranks below the national average in its rate of recovery of vital organs, it is the single largest supplier in the country of human bone for transplantation. The processes for identifying potential donors and obtaining consent is virtually identical for human organs and for bone. Therefore, it cannot be an organization performance issue that causes Michigan to appear to be a poor performer in recovering vital organs.

To compound matters, every two years, these OPOs face decertification, and unlike other HCFA certification programs, there is no provision for corrective action plans to remedy a deficient performance and there is no appeals process for resolving conflicts. The current system forces OPOs to compete on the basis of an imperfect grading system, with no guarantee of an opportunity for a fair hearing based on their actual performance. This situation pressures many OPOs to focus on the

certification process itself rather than on activities and methods to increase donation, undermining what should be the ultimate goal of the program. In addition, the two year cycle—which is shorter than any other certification program administered by HCFA—provides little opportunity to examine trends and even less incentive for OPOs to mount long term interventions.

The General Accounting Office, the Institute of Medicine, the Harvard School of Public Health and a host of others have criticized HCFA's use of the population based standard. HCFA has updated certification processes and increased the cycle of accreditation for Medicare Hospitals, Home Health Services, Ambulatory Surgery Centers, Long Term Care Organizations and Methadone Clinics—but they have done nothing to change the certification process for OPOs, despite Congressional urging these changes.

We are introducing legislation that will accomplish three major objectives. First of all, it will impose a moratorium on the current recertification process for OPOs and the use of the population-based performance measurements. Under this bill, the certification of qualified OPOs will remain in place through January 1, 2000, for those OPOs that are certified as of January 1, 2000. Second, the bill requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to promulgate new rules governing OPO recertification by January 1, 2002. These new rules are to rely on outcome and process performance measures based on evidence of organ donor potential. Finally, the bill provides for the filing and approval of a corrective action plan by an OPO that fails to meet the standards, a grace period to permit corrective action, an opportunity to appeal a decertification to the Secretary on substantive and procedural grounds and a four-year certification cycle.

It is my hope that through enacting this legislation, we can improve a system that touches hundreds of thousands of lives every year. I urge all of my colleagues to join us as co-sponsors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, my vote on final passage of H.R. 3908, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, was mistakenly recorded Thursday, March 30. I intended to vote "nay", as I had indicated throughout debate on the bill. An "aye" vote was recorded.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF ROBERTO L.G. LIZAMA

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute and mourn the passing of Roberto L.G. Lizama. Tun Bob or Uncle Bob as he was affectionately known in the Chamorro

community of the Washington, DC area had a distinguished military career and was a leader of the local Guam community. Eager to assist with any function, reliable for anyone in need of help, a winning smile and a kind word were all part of Uncle Bob's character. He was beloved by his family, the local Guam community and the thousands of Chamorros who have passed through Washington, DC over the past several decades.

Uncle Bob was born on April 21, 1927 in the prewar Guam village of Sumady. He had a typical upbringing on the ranch and he was willing to share many stories of his young life as a helper to his family on the ranch. His adolescence was marked by a cruel enemy occupation of his homeland, but the experience only strengthened his character and did not alter his positive outlook on life. Almost immediately after the liberation of Guam by American forces and when he still was not a citizen of the United States, he joined the Navy.

As was the practice by the Navy in those days, he and other young men from Guam were not allowed access to all of the military rates. They were limited to service as mess attendants and stewards as were many African-Americans and Filipinos. This discriminatory practice was offensive and limited the upward mobility of many young men from Guam. But this did not diminish Uncle Bob's optimistic outlook on life and his own life chances. Last year, he and several other Chamorro men who served as stewards visited a memorial dedicated to the stewards who served during World War II. I accompanied them and I listened intently to their discussions and they recounted for me the nature of their experiences. Typical of Chamorro men, they endured the insulting treatment they sometimes received, but they continued to work loyally and proved themselves to be better men than many others through their hard work and labor.

Uncle Bob recounted some of his experiences, but not in a bitter manner. He simply told me about the times he had to defend his honor as a Chief, as a sailor and as a native of Guam. And he did so successfully as many others did. His 30 years naval career spanned three wars. He was a veteran of World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He served aboard ship and ashore in a number of capacities. The crowning glory of his career was his service to three Presidents as a cook at the White House. He served Presidents John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon. It is hard to imagine that he prepared kelaguen and lumpia in the White House for the President, but he did. And all of Guam is proud of him for doing so.

He raised his family in Maryland. He and his wife for 51 years, Brigida Guzman Lizama, raised six sons: George, Robert, Stan, Jeff, Wayne, Eric. Together, they have five grandsons. The Lizama name will certainly survive. In his capacity as a community elder, Uncle Bob attended all of the social events and helped members of the community by lending a helping hand when needed and by cooking when necessary. We will all miss him. We extend our sincerest condolences to Auntie Bea and the Lizama men.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, on March 28th and 29th, I was with my wife Barbara who underwent major surgery at John Hopkins University Hospital, and was unable to vote in favor of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2000. I am pleased that this legislation was adopted by the House to provide needed funds to restore critical national security readiness items that must be replenished, due to the military's high operating tempo in Kosovo and other contingency operations around the world.

Had I been present, I would have cast my vote accordingly: Roll 81—(Rule)—yes; roll 82—(Sanford Amendment)—no; roll 83—(Toomey Amendment)—yes; roll 84—(Obey Amendment)—no; roll 85—(Lewis Amendment)—yes; roll 86—(Ramstad Amendment)—no; roll 87—(Gilman Amendment)—yes; roll 88—(Fowler Amendment)—yes; roll 89—(Kasich Amendment)—yes; roll 90—(Weldon Amendment)—yes; roll 91—(Stearns Amendment)—yes; roll 92—(Paul Amendment)—no; roll 93—(Tancredio Amendment)—yes; roll 94—(Motion to Recommit)—no; and roll 95—(Final Passage)—yes.

TRIBUTE TO MACON-BIBB COUNTY
LEGISLATOR FRANK CHAPMAN
PINKSTON, SR.

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a great American and Georgian, Frank Chapman Pinkston, Sr., who died Monday, March 27, 2000.

Mr. Pinkston was an inspiration to all of us. As a leader and public servant, he believed strongly in the citizens of Georgia and the meaning of loyalty. He worked hard every day to improve our communities and enhance the lives of our neighbors. He served the people of Georgia by giving 100 percent in every endeavor, placing his faith in God, his family, and his country. He will be greatly missed by the people of Georgia and his accomplishments will long be remembered.

Mr. Pinkston was born on February 9, 1923 in Ludowici, GA. He was married to the former Lucille Park Finney for 52 years and graduated from Mercer University and the Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University in 1947. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1943–1946, serving in the European Theater and participating in the Allied Invasion of Normandy. Mr. Pinkston received five battle stars and was a retired Lieutenant Colonel, Judge Advocate General Corps. Since 1947, Mr. Pinkston had been an attorney, specializing in wills, trust and probate.

Elected to the Georgia House of Representatives in 1968, Mr. Pinkston served continuously in that body until 1992. He was Chairman of the Banks and Banking Committee from 1974 to 1992 and a member of the Rules, and Appropriations Committees. He re-

wrote Georgia's banking laws and shaped Southern regional banking. He was elected in 1992 as the Eighth Congressional District representative on the State Transportation Board and was re-elected to that position in 1995 and in January 2000. He served as Vice Chairman of the Board from April 1998 until April 1999 at which time he was elected as Chairman, a position he held until his death.

Mr. Pinkston was a member of Ingleside Baptist Church, serving on the Board of Directors of the Macon Rescue Mission, New Town Macon, and the Executive Committee of the Macon-Bibb County Road Improvement Program. He also served three terms on the Board of Trustees of Mercer University, The President's Council of Mercer University, the Boy Scouts of America, and the Middle Georgia Council on Drugs.

Mr. Pinkston received the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award from Mercer University in 1987 and an honorary Doctor of Law Degree from Mercer University in 1997.

Mr. Speaker, I had the distinct pleasure of serving with Mr. Pinkston on many projects over the years. During his 24 years in public service, he helped lead the development of the Tom Hill Sr. Boulevard/Arkwright Road area, and several of Macon's museums. Mr. Pinkston's proudest achievement was establishment of the medical school at his alma mater, Mercer University. One of his many projects that, unfortunately, he was not able to see through to completion was the Fall Line Freeway.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that in honor of Mr. Pinkston and his many accomplishments in Georgia, local, State, and Federal legislators working on this project will name a portion of the Fall Line Freeway the Frank Pinkston Freeway. I believe this tribute would be a further reminder of his legacy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, due to the severe weather which struck Fort Worth, Texas, last week, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes 81 through 95.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "Aye" on rollcall vote 81; "no" on rollcall vote 82; "aye" on rollcall vote 83; "no" on rollcall vote 84; "aye" on rollcall vote 85; "no" on rollcall vote 86; "aye" on rollcall vote 87; "aye" on rollcall vote 88; "no" on rollcall vote 89; "aye" on rollcall vote 90; "no" on rollcall vote 91; "no" on rollcall vote 92; "no" on rollcall vote 93; "no" on rollcall vote 94; and "aye" on rollcall vote 95.

MICROSOFT ANTITRUST VERDICT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, America and the world are reacting to today's decision by U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson that Microsoft, among other things, violated federal

antitrust laws when it bundled its Internet browser and its Windows operating system. In particular, a lot of focus is being placed on the way the financial markets are reacting to this decision and its impact on consumers of technological goods and services.

I am not in a position at this point to comment on the Judge's decision or on who is to blame for the settlement discussions failing to achieve a solution acceptable to the parties. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ensure that we do not overlook many of the tremendous benefits that Microsoft has given to America, and African Americans in particular.

No one can seriously dispute that the Microsoft phenomenon has had a profound impact on the way every American lives today. When Microsoft and IBM led the personal computer revolution in the early 1980s, helping to make this powerful tool affordable to many American families, no one could have dreamed that we would be where we are today. The Internet and the potential of e-commerce simply could not have been imagined.

Today, the personal computer with the user-friendly Windows operating system is a way of life for many of us. We are just beginning to fully realize the great improvements in our educational achievement, our economy growth and our personal enjoyment that we owe to the personal computer and Microsoft. I hope that we never forget the tremendous contribution Microsoft has made to our way of life, no matter the outcome of this proceeding.

I also want to point out that Microsoft and its Chairman, Bill Gates, are outstanding corporate citizens whose record of charitable giving should not be ignored. Together, Bill Gates and Microsoft have donated over \$200 million to the United Negro College Fund and other organizations helping to educate future generations of Americans. They also have taken great steps to help bridge the "digital divide," the gap between those with access to the Internet and information technologies and those without it. They have donated over \$200 million in software to public libraries, Boys & Girls Clubs, and made "Connected Learning Community" grants to community-based non-profit organizations in cities across the United States.

Mr. Chairman, our antitrust laws are creatures of the early 20th century, designed to address "robber barons" and railroads. As the lessons learned from the AT&T litigation showed us, these laws were not easily adapted to the economic realities of telecommunications in the 1970s. The Microsoft litigation shows the problems inherent in applying these old laws to the electronic marketplace of the third millennium. Microsoft was a pioneer in an industry that did not exist twenty years ago, and it may ultimately pay a penalty as our legal system attempts to grasp this new, dynamic industry.

What happens to Microsoft in the coming months will have an important impact on other technology companies, and will frame the shape of 21st century commerce. Mr. Speaker, I do not know what the right form of regulation, if any, should be and how the antitrust laws should apply in this new age. I encourage Congress to begin to look at this issue, as well as addressing the growing digital divide, to ensure that the great revolution that Microsoft helped begin does not falter.

2000 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3908) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Chairman, I am in strong opposition to the Kasich/Shays/Condit amendment, which threatens unilateral withdrawal of U.S. forces and resources from Kosova.

One year ago, Kosova was a rump province and ethnic cleansing project of Slobodan Milosevic's Greater Serbia. The world watched the systematic campaign of killing, rape, and forced displacement of ethnic Albanians, whose only crime was their religion.

We and NATO were right to intervene, and we still have a job to do. The need in Kosova for peacekeeping, reconstruction and development of civil and judicial administration is greater than all of the promises by NATO and the U.S. together.

The authors of this amendment are right in one respect. Every diplomatic effort to hold NATO allies to their agreement is entirely appropriate. But threatening to unilaterally withdraw from our freely given commitment just makes the peacekeeping job, so ably done by our deployed men and women—and the reconstruction job—a great deal harder. And if the threat were acted upon, God forbid, it will only lead to giving the final initiative back to Milosevic.

Mr. Chairman, Secretary of State Albright has said that our challenge is to "secure the peace" in Kosova. This amendment would assure no peace.

I urge a "no" vote on this amendment.

2000 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3908) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Lewis-Spence-Murtha-Skelton amendment.

I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) for making this amendment a bipartisan amendment. We could not do it without them.

There are not many people here on this floor this evening, but, frankly, the folks that are here, are not the people that I am trying to reach. I am trying to reach the people who are in the offices listening and the American people on C-Span that might see this.

I am going to say what I said at our Republican conference this morning. And, I will say it to everyone now. We are considering emergency supplemental legislation. In prior years, we have talked about supplementals, emergency supplementals, real emergency supplementals. This is a real, real emergency supplemental from the standpoint of defense.

I know we all have different priorities. We have talked about them a lot today. We are going to continue to talk about them—all the things that are in this supplemental bill, drugs and all the rest.

But, I want to remind everyone, we would not be here as a free society, secure and prosperous, if it had not been made possible by our military, starting with the revolution when we gained our independence. Since that time, we have had World War I and World War II, big threats. Our forefathers, our fathers, our grandfathers, and their families sacrificed their lives and their health to make sure that we are free and secure, and to create this environment that permits us to discuss these matters as they come along.

There is a poem that is often attributed to General MacArthur, and also to a priest that served with the General, Father Denis Edward O'Brien, U.S. Marine Corps, that I believe sums up just how much we owe the freedom and liberty that we so often take for granted, to the military. It goes like this:

It is the soldier, not the reporter, Who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the soldier, not the poet, Who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, Who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, Who serves beneath the flag, And whose coffin is draped by the flag, Who allows the protester to burn the flag.

Some people these days talk about the arms race. Many people say we spend money on defense than all the rest of the world put together. We have to. Who else is able to do it? We are the only ones. To save ourselves, we have to save the rest of the world along with it.

The Cold War is over, yes. I agree. But, President Reagan, with a Democrat Congress, helped to restore the military and that is what brought about the end of the Cold War—we beat the Soviet Union in the arms race. They could not keep up. They could not do it any longer. That is what ended the Cold War. Today, we face a similar situation. We have more threats today than ever before. We still have the nuclear threat from now Russia, but now we have China and North Korea and all the rest of them, and we are not prepared to defend against those threats.

We also have other threats now—weapons of mass destruction other than nuclear—chemical, biological, from these same countries and lesser countries. This threat is out there, and we are unprepared to deal with it.

Finally, today we are no longer strong enough to fight one conventional war. Kosova was a wakeup call. We devoted all of our air assets, just about everything, to that air war. And what would have happened if something big had broken out somewhere else in the world? We could not have handled it, certainly not without a large loss of life.

Now it is our turn. We have to step up to the plate. We have to make sure that our country is free, first of all, and allows us the

environment to consider these other priorities, which I can sympathize with. The administration, I will give them credit, has come a long way, but not nearly enough. This amendment is going to help a whole lot, but still not enough.

I will conclude with a personal note: Twelve years ago, God gave me a second chance at life when I received a double lung transplant. God has clearly seen fit to leave me here on earth for some reason. I have dedicated this extension of my life to doing the best I can to preserve our freedom. But, I cannot do it alone. Our military cannot do it alone. We need your help. We need everyone's help. When the time comes, I want to be able to say, "I've done my best." I want you to be able to say the same.

A TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE
STEVEN CHEN**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of my colleagues an article regarding Representative Steven Chen, who serves as the head of the Taipei Cultural and Economic Representative Office in Washington. The article, which ran in today's New York Times, is a fitting tribute to Taiwan's unofficial Ambassador, who has worked diligently to promote and expand relations between the United States and the 22 million citizens of Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Chen is a thorough professional who has enjoyed a long and distinguished life as a career diplomat. He has represented his government all over the world, including postings in the Philippines, Brazil, Argentina, and Bolivia. His experience in the United States also is extensive. During the past 25 years, Ambassador Chen served in Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, and he has spent the last three years as the Representative in Washington, DC.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain my colleagues would agree that Steven Chen's charm and quiet demeanor have served Taiwan well. Whether meeting Members of Congress in their offices or Executive Branch officials in a more neutral setting, Ambassador Chen has always worked to make certain the United States and Taiwan remain strong friends.

Mr. Speaker, as the article notes, Ambassador Chen is planning to retire shortly. I am certain all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Steven Chen on a distinguished diplomatic career. We in the Congress are indeed fortunate to know him, and we wish him well in the years ahead.

[From the New York Times, April 3, 2000]

A DIPLOMATIC OUTSIDER WHO LOBBIES INSIDE
WASHINGTON

(By Philip Shenon)

WASHINGTON.—At an embassy that is not an embassy, the ambassador who is not an ambassador can only imagine what it is like to be a full-fledged member of Washington's diplomatic corps.

"In the evenings, you attend cocktail parties, champagne dances," Stephen Chen said wistfully of the black-tie world from which he is largely excluded. "This is the very routine, beautiful picture of the diplomat in a textbook."

Mr. Chen, the director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office, the de facto embassy here for the government of Taiwan, is a charming pariah.

While he represents the interests of 22 million of the freest and richest people in Asia, the 66-year-old diplomat might as well be invisible, at least as far as many of the State Department's China experts are concerned.

The snubs, Mr. Chen suggested, are an obvious effort to appease Beijing, and they are more than a little unfair to a government that is only weeks away from a peaceful transfer of power from one democratically elected leader to another, the first time that has happened in almost 5,000 years of Chinese history.

"There is a kind of unfairness," Mr. Chen tells a visitor, the wall behind his desk decorated with a painting of the delicate blossoms of the winter plum, Taiwan's national flower. "We have been a model student for freedom, democracy and a market economy."

"We don't mind if the United States has rapprochement with mainland China—we think it's good to bring the P.R.C. into the family of civilizations," he says of the People's Republic of China, which considers Taiwan to be a renegade province. "What we ask is that the interests of Taiwan not be sacrificed."

Because the United States has no diplomatic relations with Taiwan and has recognized the Communist government in Beijing as the sole representative of the people of China, Mr. Chen and his staff of nearly 200 are barred from the premises of the State Department.

They are not invited to diplomatic receptions at the White House, or to most of the dinner parties and glittery balls held at the embassies of nations that recognize Beijing.

When Taiwanese diplomats want to talk with Clinton administration officials, the meetings are often held in hotel coffee shops.

"We must meet in a neutral setting, that is the rule," says Mr. Chen, explaining the awkward logistics of the job.

Relations with China have been especially jittery since Taiwan's election last month of the new president, Chen Shui-bian, a former democracy activist who long advocated Taiwan's independence and whose victory ended half a century of Nationalist rule.

On the eve of the election, Chinese leaders all but warned of an invasion if Mr. Chen and his party were victorious. Since the election, both Mr. Chen and Beijing have softened their rhetoric, and Mr. Chen has recently insisted that he sees no need for an independence declaration.

Stephen Chen, who is not related to the new president, welcomes the moderated rhetoric from Taiwan's new government. The Communist leaders in Beijing, he says, would strike only "if they should be unnecessarily provoked."

"We have been dealing with them for more than 60 years," he said. "We know when they are bluffing, when they are not bluffing. If we don't give them an excuse, I don't think they're going to attack."

Mr. Chen, who was born in the Chinese city of Nanjing, last saw the mainland in 1949, when his family was on the run from the victorious Communist forces of Mao Zedong. They fled to Taiwan, his father a diplomat in the service of the Nationalist leader, Chiang Kai-shek.

His father was assigned to the embassy in the Philippines when Mr. Chen was 15, and he remained there for more than a decade, attending college in Manila, marrying his Chinese-Filipino high school sweetheart and becoming fluent in English.

In 1960, he returned to Taiwan and passed the foreign service exam. He was first sent to Rio de Janeiro, and then to Argentina and Bolivia. In 1973, he was named consul general to Atlanta, where he remained until the

United States severed relations with Taiwan and recognized Beijing six years later.

Mr. Chen said he can remember sitting in his living room in Atlanta, watching the televised announcement by President Carter that the United States would recognize the Communist government. "I felt that I was being clobbered," he recalled. "A baseball bat on the head."

"It seemed very unfair," he continued. "It was as if the United States wanted to reward a bad guy, the lousy student, and to punish the good student. That was my feeling."

In the years since, he said, Taiwanese diplomats have learned how to innovate, especially in Washington, where they employ some of the city's most powerful lobbyists and retain close ties to many prominent conservative members of Congress.

Mr. Chen says his office has an annual budget for lobbying of about \$1.2 million and contracts with 15 firms. "They help open doors, they make appointments for us," he said. "But we make the presentations."

Under a 1979 law, Taiwan can continue to buy American weapons.

And Mr. Chen has been a frequent visitor to Capitol Hill in recent weeks as his government seeks Congressional approval for the sale of a wish list of sophisticated weapons. "If we are deprived of basic defensive weapons, then of course we are thrown to the wolves," he said.

Mr. Chen is considering a visit to the lair of the wolves. After 40 years in the diplomatic service, he is nearing retirement, and he is planning a vacation on the mainland, which is now permitted.

"I tell you very frankly, I would like to see the Great Wall," he said. "This belongs to the legacy of China. It has nothing to do with Communism."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 4, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 5

Time to be announced

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the energy potential of the 1002 area of the Arctic Coastal Plain; the role this energy could play in National security; the role this energy could play in reducing U.S. dependency on imported oil; and the legislative provisions of S. 2214, to establish and implement a competitive oil and gas leasing program that will result in an environmentally sound and job creating program for the exploration, development, and production of the oil and gas resources of the Coastal Plain. (Immediately following Full Committee Business Meeting).

SD-366

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-124

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by a hearings on S. 612, to provide for periodic Indian needs assessments, to require Federal Indian program evaluations.

SR-485

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

Foreign Relations

International Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on United Nations peace keeping missions and their proliferation.

SD-419

Judiciary

Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee

To resume oversight hearings on the handling of the investigation of Peter Lee, focusing on the plea-bargain agreement reached in the case.

SH-216

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine political parties in America.

SR-301

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Army programs.

SD-192

Finance

To hold hearings on the pattern of improper payments in the school Medicaid program.

SD-215

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on legacies of the Holocaust.

SD-419

APRIL 6

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-138

Appropriations

Treasury and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Office of Drug Control Policy.

SD-124

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the proposed five-year strategic plan of the U.S. Forest Service in compliance with Government Results and Performance Act.

SD-366

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on the March 30, 2000, United States Army Civil Works Management Reforms.

SD-406

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings on interstate shipments of state inspected meat.

SR-328A

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine procedures and standards for the granting of security clearances at the Department of Defense.

SR-222

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Federal Trade Commission.

S-146, Capitol

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Aviation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine issues dealing with aviation security.

SR-253

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Richard C. Tallman, of Washington, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit; the nomination of John Antoon II, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida; the nomination of Marianne O. Battani, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan vice Anna Diggs Taylor, retired; the nomination of David M. Lawson, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of

Michigan vice Avern Cohn, retired; H.R. 2260, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to promote pain management and palliative care without permitting assisted suicide and euthanasia; S. 1854, to reform the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976; and H.J. Res. 86, recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Korean War and the service by members of the Armed Forces during such war.

SD-226

Foreign Relations

East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee

International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings on China in the World Trade Organization, focusing on United States high technology sector.

SD-419

Finance

To hold hearings to examine China's accession to the World Trade Organization.

SD-215

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the International Financial Institutions.

SD-192

2:15 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

Criminal Justice Oversight Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

SD-226

APRIL 11

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Energy.

SD-138

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the effects of permanent, normalized trade relations with China on the U.S. economy.

SR-253

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the nominations of Bernard Daniel Rostker, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; Gregory Robert Dahlberg, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Army; and Madelyn R. Creedon, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration.

SR-222

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry; S. 1284, to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that no State may establish, maintain, or enforce on behalf of any electric utility an exclusive right to sell electric energy or otherwise unduly discriminate against any

consumer who seeks to purchase electric energy in interstate commerce from any supplier; S. 1273, to amend the Federal Power Act, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets; S. 1369, to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency; S. 2071, to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system; and S. 2098, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets, and to ensure electric reliability.

SH-216

APRIL 12

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Corporation for National and Community Service, Community Development Financial Institutions, and Chemical Safety Board.

SD-138

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on S. 2255, to amend the Internet Tax Freedom Act to extend the moratorium through calendar year 2006.

SR-253

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the report of the Academy for Public Administration on Bureau of Indian Affairs management reform.

SR-485

10 a.m.

Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on missile defense programs.

SD-192

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Wassenaar arrangement and the future of multilateral export control.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine federal actions affecting hydropower

operations on the Columbia River system.

SD-366

APRIL 13

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

SD-138

Energy and Natural Resources

To resume hearings on S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry; S. 1284, to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that no State may establish, maintain, or enforce on behalf of any electric utility an exclusive right to sell electric energy or otherwise unduly discriminate against any consumer who seeks to purchase electric energy in interstate commerce from any supplier; S. 1273, to amend the Federal Power Act, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets; S. 1369, to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency; S. 2071, to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system; and S. 2098, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets, and to ensure electric reliability.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 2034, to establish the Canyons of the Ancients National Conservation Area.

SD-366

APRIL 25

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 2239, to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost sharing for the endangered fish recovery implementation programs for the Upper Colorado River and San Juan River basins.

SD-366

APRIL 26

10 a.m.

Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

APRIL 6

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the incinerator component at the proposed Advanced Waste Treatment Facility at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and its potential impact on the adjacent Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

SD-366

POSTPONEMENTS

APRIL 19

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 611, to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups.

SR-485